Separatist movement in Manipur

2392. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the facts which lead to the separatist movement of Manipur extremistouths from India;

(b) whether the agreements made between the then Central Government and Maharaja of Manipur under the merger agreement have been fulfilled; and

(c) if so, state the actual facts that have been fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government have fulfilled all its obligations under the Manipur Merger Agreement within the Constitutional framework. The privy purse was, however, abolished by an Act of Parliament in 1971.

Increase in train robberies

2393. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 821, given in the Rajya Sabha on the 4th March, 1999 and state:

(a) whether cases of train robberies have been increasing and the RPF have totally failed to protect the travellers; and

(b) if so, the details of such incidents during the past one year and the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) According to available information, there were 254 cases of robbery in trains during 1998 as compared with 178 such cases during the preceding year.

The registration, investigation, detection and prevention of crimes in running trains is the responsibility of the Government Railway Police (GRP), which functions under the control of the respective State Governments. The Central Government has been advising the State Governments, from time to time, to take necessary measures to ensure the safety of passengers and their belongings during train journeys. The measures suggested by the Central Government include, inter alia, the need for regular meetings between the GRP and the Railway Protection Force (RPF), posting of mobile police force in running trains, improvement in coordination between the police escort and the railway staff, removal of unauthorised hawkers, urchins and other undesirable elements, etc.

Ford Foundation grants for organisations in India

2394. SHRI K.R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ford Foundation gives grants to organisations and individuals in India; and

(b) if so, the names and addresses of recipients of such grants, alongwith the purpose and the amounts of grant, during the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) The Ford Foundation extends grant assistance mainly to non-governmental organisations, research institutions, Government agencies and Universities in the areas of agriculture and rural development, health and population, planning and management, education and culture etc.

(b) The details are given in the Annnexure. (*See* Appendix 186, Annexure No. 38).

Appointment of Area Welfare Officers

2395. SHRI DEBABRATA BISWAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that appointment of Area Welfare Officers is not made in time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether facilities provided to Area Welfare Officers are sufficient according to the responsibilities they are supposed to share; if not, the reasons therefor and what additional facilities including reimbursement of charges incurred by them, are proposed to be provided in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) There is no laid down time schedule for appointment of Area Welfare Officers. However, they are appointed on honorary and voluntary basis generally for a term of two years.

(c) The facilities provided to the Area Welfare Officers include inter alia use of office stationary and service stamps, permission to

leave office early to discuss problems of Government employees with various civic, police authorities, etc. There is no proposal for providing any additional facilities to them.

Modernising Central Para-Military Forces

2396. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to modernise Central para-military forces;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Modernisation of the Central Para-Military Forces is a continuing process. Modern and sophisticated weaponry, communication, equipment, vehicles and other specialised equipment are continuously being made available to the Forces with a view to enhance their operational efficiency within the overall budget constraints.

(c) Does not arise.

नक्सलवादियों के लिटे के साथ संबंध

2397. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या गृह मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात की जानकारी है कि मध्य प्रदेश में नक्सलवादियों के लिटे और बिहार की "उग्रवादी संगठन पार्टी यूनिटी" के साथ संबंध हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार को यह जानकारी कब मिली और इस संबंध में सरकार द्वारा कौन-कौन से कदम उठाए गये हैं?

गृह मंत्री (श्री लाल कृष्ण आडवाणी): (क) मध्य प्रदेश के नक्सलवादियों और एल॰टी॰टी॰ई॰ के बीच संबंधों की कोई जानकारी ध्यान में नहीं आई है। तथापि, आन्ध्र प्रदेश में आधारित पीपल्स वार ग्रुप (पी॰डबल्यू॰जी॰), जो मध्य प्रदेश में सक्रिय है, का विलय बिहार की सी॰पी॰एम॰एल॰-पार्टी यूनिटी (पी॰यू॰) के साथ हो गया है।

(ख) अक्तूबर, 1998 में उनके विलय होने के तत्काल पश्चात्, राज्य सरकारों को उनकी गतिविधियों पर निकट रूप से निगाह रखने की सलाह दी गई थी। वामपंथी उग्रवादियों के विरुद्ध राज्य सरकारों द्वारा की गई कार्रवाई की प्रगति के प्रबोधन हेतु एक समन्वय केन्द्र स्थापित किया गया है।

E-Mails on violence in Dangs

2398. SHRI SATISH CHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that hundreds of E-Mails being sent abroad everyday, mainly to European and American NGOs and religious organisations, giving exaggerated versions of violence in Dangs;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) It is not practicable to keep track of the stupendous data which passes through E-mail.

(c) Suitable measures are being taken by the Government to counter such anti-India propaganda by projecting the Government's view-point.

Terrorism in Kashmir Valley

2399. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of incidents of terrorist activities in the Kashmir Valley, after the recent visit of Prime Minister to Pakistan;

(b) whether Pakistan has condemned the terrorist activities; and

(c) if not, what is the reaction of Government?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) According to information provided by the Government of Jammu and Kashmir 94 incidents of terrorist violence took place after the visit of the Prime Minister of India to Pakistan during the period 20.2.99 to 5.3.99.

(b) and (c) In the Lahore Declaration signed between the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan, both countries reaffirmed their condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and determination to combat this menance. During the composite dialogue process underway with Pakistan, Government has registered Indian concerns with Pakistan and demanded that sponsorship of terrorism by Pakistan against India must cease.